

Dear Jim,

5/1/81

Amusing coincidence, your finding the Blakey letter to the Times about the HSCA's finding re Nosenko and Fedora after six year and my having just finished reading his staff report on Nosenko. To characterize that report as incompetent is to praise it highly. It is deliberately dishonest and obvious biased from the outset, designed to reach the reached corrupt conclusions.

This is not to say that it also is not incompetent. As you've heard me say about Mark Lane, as an investigator he could not find public hair in an overworked and under-cleaned whorehouse at rush hour. They note the key dates with regard to Nosenko and the CIA, even the dates of the FBI's interviews of him, and they note the close date of the abrupt change in the CIA's treatment of Nosenko but they do not note what they also knew, the time the CIA got the FBI's copies of its reports on the Nosenko interviews. The staff report refers to what Nosenko said about Oswald in these and no other words and never once says what Nosenko said. Thus, they rewrite history, like Big Brother. They omitted that the KGB suspected that Oswald was an American sleeper agent and they omit that it was known that Oswald was anti-Soviet, as indeed he was. They misrepresent also, taking the unquestioned CIA line that Nosenko had to be lying because the KGB had to have interviewed Oswald. What they omit I got in FBI reports, they did not interview Oswald formally because their advance reports, from Intourist and the hotel employees, is that he was unstable. And then there is what they also omit, what Oswald told the FBI, that the MVD had interviewed him twice.

I started Blakey's narration but haven't finished it. I'll get back to it soon.

I do not need a copy of Spy Catcher. Pleasant surprise when we got home from taking Idi to the doctor. (She lost her voice again but this time it comes from an infection.) A Swedish schoolteacher who has been in touch from time to time by phone (and thus-I presume has resources other than his salary) had one sent by a New Caanan, Conn. bookstore with which he deals and they gift-wrapped it and enclosed the card he sent them from Sweden. Very nice and something pleasant was more pleasant on return from the doctor.

Fedora is irrelevant with regard to Nosenko. He could have lied, he could have had faulty memory or he could have been truthful. It is not material to Nosenko's credibility, his truthfulness. Thus HSCA omits what he said about Oswald because that stacks and thus Epstein resorted to Fedora to undermine Nosenko. Perhaps with a leak or some prodding of Epstein. Likely by Angleton.

Best,